

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Jose Ignacio BUENO RUIZ et al

Date: January 8, 2002

Serial No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed:

Examiner:

For: REMOTE ACTIVATION MECHANISM FOR EQUIPMENT HOLD DOWN AND  
RELEASEU.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 2327  
Arlington, VA 22202

Attn: Appln. Branch

**AMENDMENT/SUBMISSION**

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows.

**FEE CALCULATION**

Any additional fee required has been calculated as follows:

\_\_\_\_\_ If checked, "Small Entity" status is claimed.

	NO. CLAIMS AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		EXTRA PRESENT		RATE	ADDIT. FEE
TOTAL	11	MINUS	20	* =	0	X	(\$9 SE or \$18)	\$
INDEP.	1	MINUS	3	** =	0	X	(\$42 SE or \$84)	\$
FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM						X	(\$140 SE or \$280)	\$

\* not less than 20 \*\* not less than 3

TOTAL \$ -----

If any additional payment is required, a check which includes the calculated fee of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(OFGS Check No. \_\_\_\_\_) is attached.

In the event the actual fee is greater than the payment submitted or is inadvertently not  
enclosed or if any additional fee during the prosecution of this application is not paid, the Patent  
Office is authorized to charge the underpayment to Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

## CONTINGENT EXTENSION REQUEST

If this communication is filed after the shortened statutory time period had elapsed and no separate Petition is enclosed, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is petitioned, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), to extend the time for filing a response to the outstanding Office Action by the number of months which will avoid abandonment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.135. The fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 should be charged to our Deposit Account No. 15-0700.

## AMENDMENTS

  X   If checked, amendment(s) to the specification and/or claims are submitted herewith.

1.        If checked, an abstract is submitted as the last page of Appendix A.

### 2. Specification:

Please delete the paragraph(s)/section(s) beginning at page, \_\_\_\_\_ and replace such paragraph(s)/section(s) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(ii) with the “clean” version attached hereto as Appendix A. Entry is respectfully requested. A version with markings to show the changes made pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(iii) is attached hereto as Appendix B.

### 3. Claims:

Please cancel claims \_\_\_\_\_ without prejudice.

Please amend claims 5, 7, 9 and 11 pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(i) as set forth in the “clean” version attached hereto as Appendix A. Entry is respectfully requested. A version with markings to show the changes made pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii) is attached hereto as Appendix B.

       If checked, the optional complete set of “clean” claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(3) is attached hereto as Appendix C.

## REMARKS/ARGUMENT

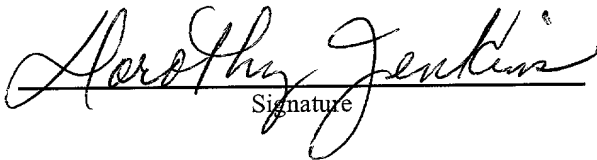
This Preliminary Amendment is being submitted to change the multiple dependent claims to single dependent claims in order to eliminate the improper multiple dependent claim and to reduce the government filing fee.

### EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail to Addressee (mail label # EL924389559US) in an envelope addressed to: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202 on January 8, 2002:

Dorothy Jenkins

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

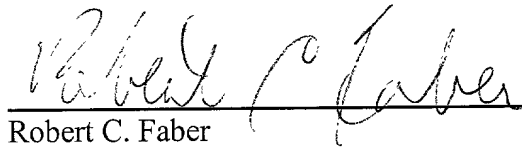


Signature

January 8, 2002

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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**APPENDIX A**  
**“CLEAN” VERSION OF EACH PARAGRAPH/SECTION/CLAIM**  
**37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(ii) AND (c)(i)**

**CLAIMS (with indication of amended or new):**

(Amended) 5. A mechanism as in claim 1, wherein said ring is divided in at least two, and preferably three, segments, that in their closest position are maintained separated one from other by the keys of the fixed base.

(Amended) 7. A mechanism as in claim 1, further comprising one or several springs located between the crown and the housing that pushes the crown towards the position in which the crown grooves are not faced to the cage slots, and also shape memory alloy wires that when activated operate on the crown opposite to the said spring, having possibility of contraction as to move the crown up to facing its grooves to the cage slots.

(Amended) 9. A mechanism as in claim 1, wherein said shape memory alloy wire are heated by passing electrical current through it, being provided the necessary electrical isolation.

(Amended) 11. A mechanism as in claim 1, wherein said segmented ring is a segmented nut, and said retainer is a bolt able to be threaded in the segmented nut when the nut is closed with the segments as close as possible.

**APPENDIX B**  
**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**  
**37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(iii) AND (c)(ii)**

**CLAIMS:**

5. A mechanism as in claim 1 [and 3], wherein said ring is divided in at least two, and preferably three, segments, that in their closest position are maintained separated one from other by the keys of the fixed base.

7. A mechanism as in claim 1 [and 6], further comprising one or several springs located between the crown and the housing that pushes the crown towards the position in which the crown grooves are not faced to the cage slots, and also shape memory alloy wires that when activated operate on the crown opposite to the said spring, having possibility of contraction as to move the crown up to facing its grooves to the cage slots.

9. A mechanism as in claim 1 [and 8], wherein said shape memory alloy wire are heated by passing electrical current through it, being provided the necessary electrical isolation.

11. A mechanism as in [all previous claims] claim 1, wherein said segmented ring is a segmented nut, and said retainer is a bolt able to be threaded in the segmented nut when the nut is closed with the segments as close as possible.